

REMARKS

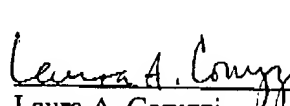
Claims 1-6, 8, and 21 are pending after entry of this amendment. Claims 7, and 9-20 have been canceled without prejudice. Applicants reserve the right to prosecute the subject matter in related applications. Claim 21 has been added, and claims 1-6, and 8 have been amended to more particularly point out and distinctly claim that which Applicants regard as the invention. The amendments in claims 1-6, and 8 are fully supported by the specification, *inter alia*, on page 5, lines 6-18; page 11, line 19 to page 13, line 3; page 14, lines 20-27; page 20, lines 15-22.

CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully request that the above-made remarks and amendments be entered and made of record in the file history of the instant application. An early allowance of the application is earnestly requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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EXHIBIT A**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE****U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/602,833**

1. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising at least 24 contiguous bases of [a nucleotide sequence first disclosed in one of the *SGT4* genes described in the group consisting of] SEQ ID [NOS:1 and] NO:1 or 3, or the complement thereof.
2. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence that (i) consists of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or 3, or (ii) encodes [an] the amino acid sequence [selected from the group consisting] of SEQ ID [NOS:2 and] NO:2 or 4 ;or the complement thereof.
3. (Amended) An isolated nucleic acid molecule [which] that hybridizes under stringent conditions to [the] a second nucleic acid molecule [according to any one of Claims 1-2] consisting of: (a) the nucleic acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1 or 3; or (b) a nucleotide sequence that encodes the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2 or 4, wherein the stringent conditions comprise hybridization in 6xSSC, 50mM Tris HCl (pH 7.5), 1mM EDTA, 0.02% PVP, 0.02% Ficoll, 0.02% BSA, and 500µg/ml denatured salmon sperm DNA at 65°C, and washing in 0.1x SSC at 50°C, or the complement thereof.
4. (Amended) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule [according to] of Claim 1, 2 or 3.
5. (Amended) An expression vector comprising the nucleic acid molecule [according to] of Claim 1, 2 or 3 operatively associated with a regulatory nucleic acid [controlling] that controls the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in a host cell.
6. (Amended) A [genetically engineered] host cell comprising the [nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 3] vector of Claim 4.
8. (Amended) A method for producing a polypeptide comprising introducing into [expressing a nucleic acid molecule according to Claim 3 in] a cell an expression vector

comprising the nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1, 2, or 3 operatively associated with a regulatory nucleic acid that controls the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in a host cell; and culturing the cell such that the polypeptide encoded by the nucleic acid molecule is produced.

21. (New) A host cell genetically engineered to express the nucleic acid molecule of Claim 1, 2, or 3 operatively associated with a regulatory nucleic acid controlling the expression of the nucleic acid molecule in the host cell.